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MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

NOTIFICATION

New Delhi, the 27th February, 1956

No. 3/2/56-Public(IV).—The President has heard with profound regret of the sad and sudden demise of Shri G. V. Mavalankar, Speaker, Lok Sabha, on the morning of Monday, February 27, 1956, at Ahmedabad.

Born on November 27, 1888, Shri Mavalankar attained distinction at an early age as an advocate, patriot, public worker and parliamentarian. As Speaker, Bombay Legislative Assembly from 1937 to 1946 and thereafter as President, Central Legislative Assembly from January 1946 to August, 1947; Speaker, Indian Parliament from August, 1947, to April 1952; and Speaker, Lok Sabha since then to the time of his passing away, Shri Mavalankar made a unique contribution to the moulding and development of parliamentary life and institutions in India. As the first Speaker of the first Parliament of Independent India and later of the Lok Sabha, he was truly the father of the present Lok Sabha and gave it shape, faith and direction under the impress and stamp of his personality.

His contributions to the cause of parliamentary institutions extended beyond the frontiers of India through his participation in the Commonwealth Parliamentary Conferences, and Inter-Parliamentary Conference and the Commonwealth Speakers' Conference from time to time. This received recognition in his recent election as Chairman of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association.

Apart from his services to parliamentary democracy in India and abroad, Speaker Shri Mavalankar, devoted considerable energy and drive to other causes of public benefit. His association with the Gandhi Memorial and the Kasturba Memorial Funds and numerous other trusts was a measure of his deep human sympathies.

In the death of Speaker Shri Mavalankar the nation has suffered an irreparable loss. The memory of his great qualities will however be enshrined in the hearts of the people and inspire future generations.

A. V. PAI, Secy.